

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior revisions, and listings, of claims in the application.

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Original) A piston assembly for an internal-combustion engine comprising:  
a piston body including a top land portion and a ring groove formed on its periphery; and  
a piston ring having a U-shaped cross section, the piston ring including an upper leg portion, a lower leg portion, and a base portion connecting the upper and lower leg portions, the piston ring being attached to the top land portion of the piston body, wherein  
an axial length from a boundary of the base portion of the piston ring and the upper leg portion to a lower surface of the lower leg portion is set to be larger than an axial length from an upper surface of the top land portion of the piston body to a lower surface of the ring groove into which the lower leg portion of the piston ring is fitted.
2. (Original) A piston assembly for an internal-combustion engine comprising:  
a piston body including a top land portion and a ring groove formed on its periphery; and  
a piston ring having a U-shaped cross section, the piston ring including an upper leg portion, a lower leg portion, and a base portion connecting the upper and lower leg portions, the piston ring being attached to the top land portion of the piston body, wherein  
at least one axial groove is provided on a thrust side of the top land portion of the piston body.
3. (Original) A piston assembly for an internal-combustion engine comprising:  
a piston body including a top land portion and a ring groove formed on its periphery; and

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Preliminary Amendment

a piston ring having a U-shaped cross section, the piston ring including an upper leg portion, a lower leg portion, and a base portion connecting the upper and lower leg portions, the piston ring being attached to the top land portion of the piston body, wherein

the piston body further includes a second land portion in which a V-shaped annular groove is formed.

4. (Currently Amended) The piston assembly for an internal-combustion engine according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1, wherein

the piston ring has an upper periphery of a BF (barrel face) shape and a lower periphery formed as a straight or tapered contact face.

5. (New) The piston assembly for an internal-combustion engine according to claim 2, wherein

the piston ring has an upper periphery of a BF (barrel face) shape and a lower periphery formed as a straight or tapered contact face.

6. (New) The piston assembly for an internal-combustion engine according to claim 3, wherein

the piston ring has an upper periphery of a BF (barrel face) shape and a lower periphery formed as a straight or tapered contact face.